Approved For Release 2009/02/11: CIA-RDP85T00339R000100100002-2 LOW-LEVEL DROWE OUT 60 1,500' Att to M-5716

TROOP MOVEMENT, THANH HOA AREA

SEVERAL PHOTOGRAPHIC COLLECTION SYSTEMS ARE DEPLOYED AGAINST NORTH VIETNAM.

LOW-LEVEL DRONES OPERATE NORMALLY BETWEEN 1,000 AND 1,500 FEET, AND CAN OPERATE IN

EITHER A DAY OR NIGHT CONFIGURATION. LOW OPERATIONAL HEIGHTS, HIGH PHOTOGRAPHIC

RESOLUTION, AND VARIETY OF VIEWS ARE THE UNIQUE FEATURES OF LOW-LEVEL DRONE PHOTOGRAPHY.

THIS BOARD REVEALS AN APPARENT RAIL MOVEMENT OF NORTH VIETNAMESE TROOPS. A BATTALION-SIZE UNIT OF APPROXIMATELY 450 PERSONNEL ARE OBSERVED WALKING IN A LOOSE FORMATION FROM THE TRAIN TO A ROAD LEADING SOUTHWARD. THESE TROOPS HAVE PROBABLY JUST DISEMBARKED FROM THE TROOP TRAIN.

SECRET

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No briefing board; this follows item 23 in sequence)

BYE-2849/69

THE OXCART (BLACK SHIELD) PROGRAM RECEIVED PRESIDENTIAL APPROVAL IN AUGUST 1959. THE FIRST FLIGHT TEST WAS CONDUCTED IN APRIL 1962.

OPERATIONAL (EMERGENCY) CAPABILITY WAS REACHED IN NOVEMBER 1964 AND FULL OPERATIONAL READINESS WAS ACHIEVED IN NOVEMBER 1965. THE VEHICLE OF THIS PROGRAM WAS DEPLOYED TO OKINAWA IN MAY 67. DURING THE PERIOD MAY 1967 THROUGH MAY 1968, A TOTAL OF 29 OPERATIONAL MISSIONS WERE FLOWN. THESE INCLUDED 24 OVER NORTH VIETNAM, THREE OVER NORTH KOREA, AND TWO OVER CAMBODIA.

TOP SECRET

Handle via BYEMAN Control System

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SECRET



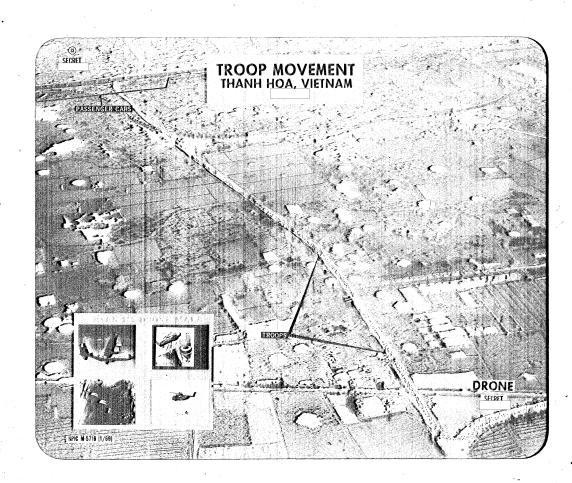
NATIONAL PHOTOGRAPHIC INTERPRETATION CENTER

M - 5716 /69

NPIC CONTROL NUMBER

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